

REMARKS

Claims 1-51 are pending.

The November 24, 2009 Decision on Appeal dismissed the appeal with regard to Claims 25-38. It also found a new ground of rejection for Claims 46-51. Accordingly, Claims 25-38 and 46-51 are cancelled without prejudice; the Applicants reserve the right to pursue the canceled claims in a continuing application.

The Decision on Appeal reversed the rejection of Claims 1-24 and 39-51. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are allowable. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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JR/dhm

Dated: January 22, 2010

The Director is hereby authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. **19-2179** for any additional fees, or any underpayment or credit for overpayment in connection herewith.